What is Claimed:

1. A method for consolidating computing devices, comprising:

    retrieving a first data set indicative of characteristics of a first computing device;

    retrieving a second data set indicative of characteristics of a second computing device;

    determining at least one characteristic in the first data set that is different from a substantially similar characteristic in the second data set; and

    providing a visual depiction of the at least one difference.

2. The method as recited in claim 1 comprising loading the first and second data sets into a relational database and comparing the characteristics by way of SQL queries on the relational database.

3. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the characteristics of a computing device comprises information indicative of system parameters.

4. The method as recited in claim 3 wherein the system parameters comprise at least one of: the number of processors, available processors, processor level, devices, disk drive characteristics, disk drive capacity, system name, page size, operating system version, operating system build, and network connectivity, system CPU utilization, and system memory load.

5. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the characteristics of a computing device comprises information indicative of executable process parameters.

6. The method as recited in claim 5 wherein the executable process parameters comprise at least one of: CPU utilization, memory utilization, active processes, active process dependencies, processor usage, memory usage, process creation time, process ID, process owner, process handles, process version, dependency version, process timestamp, process description, and dependency description.

7. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the information indicative of the characteristics of a computing device comprises information indicative of computing device database definition parameters.

8. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the visual depiction comprises a chart indicative of the level of difference between at least on characteristic.

9. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the visual depiction comprises a textual display comparing the characteristic of the first data set with the characteristic of the second data set.

10. The method as recited in claim 6 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one process in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one process is present in the second data set.

11. The method as recited in claim 6 further comprising an indicator comparing the process version in the first set with the process version in the second set.

12. The method as recited in claim 6 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one process in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one process is present in the second data set.

13. The method as recited in claim 7 wherein the computing device database definition parameters comprise at least one of: database names, roles, users, aliases, defaults, rules, functions, user defined datatypes, user messages, tables, views, indexes, extended procedures, stored procedures, and triggers.

14. The method as recited in claim 13 further comprising an indicator comparing the database login names in the first set with the database login names in the second set.

15. The method as recited in claim 13 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one table in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one table is present in the second data set.

16. The method as recited in claim 13 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one column name in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one column name is present in the second data set.

17. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising receiving a plurality of first data sets and a plurality of second data sets and determining at least one characteristic in the first data sets that is different from a substantially similar characteristic in the second data sets over time.

18. A system for consolidating computing devices, comprising:

a storage device having stored thereon a first data set indicative of characteristics of a first computing device;

a storage device having stored thereon a second data set indicative of characteristics of a second computing device;

computer-readable instructions stored in a memory device and capable of determining at least one characteristic in the first data set that is different from a substantially similar characteristic in the second data set; and

computer-readable instruction stored in a memory device and capable of providing a visual depiction on an output device of the at least one difference.

19. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the first and second data sets are stored in a relational database and wherein the computer-readable instructions for determining at least one characteristic compares the characteristics by way of SQL queries on the relational database.

20. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the characteristics of a computing device comprises information indicative of system parameters.

21. The system as recited in claim 20 wherein the system parameters comprise at least one of: the number of processors, available processors, processor level, devices, disk drive characteristics, disk drive capacity, system name, page size, operating system version, operating system build, and network connectivity, system CPU utilization, and system memory load.

22. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the characteristics of a computing device comprises information indicative of executable process parameters.

23. The system as recited in claim 22 wherein the executable process parameters comprise at least one of: CPU utilization, memory utilization, active processes, active process dependencies, processor usage, memory usage, process creation time, process ID, process owner, process handles, process version, dependency version, process timestamp, process description, and dependency description.

24. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the information indicative of the characteristics of a computing device comprises information indicative of computing device database definition parameters.

25. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the visual depiction comprises a chart indicative of the level of difference between at least on characteristic.

26. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the visual depiction comprises a textual display comparing the characteristic of the first data set with the characteristic of the second data set.

27. The system as recited in claim 23 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one process in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one process is present in the second data set.

28. The system as recited in claim 23 further comprising an indicator comparing the process version in the first set with the process version in the second set.

29. The system as recited in claim 23 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one process in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one process is present in the second data set.

30. The system as recited in claim 23 further comprising an indicator comparing the process version in the first set with the process version in the second set.

31. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the information indicative of the characteristics of a computing device comprises computing device database definition parameters.

32. The system as recited in claim 31 wherein the computing device database definition parameters comprise at least one of: database names, roles, users, aliases, defaults, rules, functions, user defined datatypes, user messages, tables, views, indexes, extended procedures, stored procedures, and triggers.

33. The system as recited in claim 31 further comprising an indicator comparing the database login names in the first set with the database login names in the second set.

34. The system as recited in claim 31 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one table in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one table is present in the second data set.

35. The system as recited in claim 31 wherein the visual depiction presents a list of at least one column name in the first data set and provides an indicator of whether the at least one column name is present in the second data set.

36. The system as recited in claim 18 wherein the storage device having stored thereon a first data set indicative of characteristics of a first computing device comprises a plurality of first data sets representative of characteristics of the first computing device at a plurality of times;

wherein the storage device having stored thereon a second data set indicative of characteristics of a second computing device comprises a plurality of second data sets representative of characteristics of the second computing device at a plurality of times; and

wherein the computer-readable instructions stored in a memory device and capable of determining at least one characteristic in the plurality of first data sets that is different from a substantially similar characteristic in the plurality of second data sets over time.